Statnett



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In short

Highlights

The power situation in Norway was good throughout the fourth quarter of 2015 and reservoir water levels were above the median at the end of 2015. Operations were satisfactory and the period was characterised by high project activity.

The Statnett Group's underlying profit after tax amounted to NOK 276 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 (NOK 224 million in the corresponding period in 2014). In 2015 the underlying profit amounted to NOK 1 427 million (NOK 1 284 million). The increase was due to increased permitted revenue mainly due to a higher asset base. The increase is somewhat offset by lower interest rates, as well as lower wage and staff costs due to a one-off effect as the Group has changed from a defined-benefit pension plan to a defined-contribution pension plan.

The underlying result is based on the regulated permitted revenue, whereas the recorded result will depend on stipulated tariffs and congestion revenues. The difference, referred to as higher or lower revenue, will level out over time through adjustment of tariffs, ensuring that Statnett's recorded revenue over time corresponds with the regulated permitted revenue.

After tax, the recorded net profit for the Group amounted to NOK 158 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 (NOK 106 million), and NOK 1 103 million in 2015 (NOK 829 million). In 2015, Statnett's higher revenue balance was reduced by NOK 444 million, including interest.

Important events

- The 2015 Grid Development Plan was presented on 1 October. The plan comprises grid projects totalling NOK 40-55 billion over the next five years. The 2015 Power System Assessment, which is an extended version of the Grid Development Plan, has been updated and submitted to the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE).
- In November, Statnett's Board of Directors made an

investment decision for the Snilldal-Surna subsection, which is part of the Namsos-Åfjord-Surna project. The project facilitates wind power plans in Central Norway.

- More than 90 per cent of the Ørskog Sogndal project has been completed. The entire section from Ørskog to Ålfoten has now been energised at 420 kV. In December, the District Court gave Statnett permission to start constructing the remaining 2.5 km power line section and mobilisation started January 2016. Consequently, the project is likely to be completed by the end of 2016 as scheduled.
- On 29 October, Statnett put four new cables into operation across Tjeldsundet.
- Statnett has entered into an agreement with Svenska Kraftnät (SvK) regarding collaboration on the new Regulation and Market System LARM, a joint IT system for balancing the Nordic power system. The cooperation enables potential savings for consumers, as the two companies will split the costs of developing and managing the system.
- In December, the Nordic transmission system operators Statnett, Fingrid, Svenska Kraftnät and Energinet.dk decided to establish a Coordinated Balancing Area (CoBA). The introduction of CoBA is part of ensuring compliance with the new European regulations.
- As of 1 October, the Elhub project is organised as a separate wholly-owned subsidiary of the Statnett Group.
- From the 2016 accounting year, Statnett will change to external financial reporting twice a year. The decision was made based on an assessment of the nature of the enterprise, which changes very little from one quarter to the next, and that the need for financial information will be satisfactorily maintained. The change is part of Statnett's efficiency improvement programme.

Director's report

Safe and efficient operations

The power situation was good throughout the fourth quarter of 2015. Temperatures and precipitation were above normal in the fourth quarter. In December, the average monthly temperature for the whole country was 4.4 °C higher than normal, whereas the average monthly temperature for the whole country was 165 per cent of normal levels. Snow reservoir levels were about normal at the end of the year.

At the beginning of the fourth quarter, reservoir water levels were 92.5 per cent, 6.4 percentage points above the median (from the 1990-2014 measuring period). At the end of the quarter, reservoir water levels were about 82.5 per cent, 12.9 percentage points above the median.

The hydrological balance improved throughout the fourth quarter, and showed a surplus of approximately 12 TWh at the end of 2015.

Total Norwegian power generation and consumption was 39 TWh and 35 TWh, respectively, in the fourth quarter of 2015. This resulted in net exports of approximately 4 TWh, equal to the same period in 2014. Power generation in Norway in 2015 was 143 TWh, whereas power consumption for the year was 128 TWh.

On Monday, 18 November, implicit loss handling was introduced for the NorNed cable. This means that power trading will not take place on the interconnector when congestion revenues are lower than loss costs.

Major faults and operational disruptions in the fourth quarter of 2015 were:

 Fault in Smestad substation on 18 November in connection with maintenance work. The fault resulted in outages of all 300 kV outlets and 485 MW supply interruptions for consumers in Bærum and Oslo West; a total outage of 485 MW. Most of the consumption could quickly be restored by switching to the subsidiary grid.

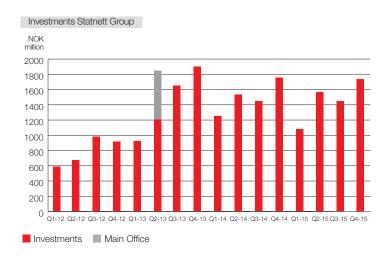
- On 1 December, parts of the Stavanger area were without power supply due to outage of Lyse T2, approx. 300 MW. The area had only one source of power supply due to modification work on the Feda-Åna-Sira power line. Supply was quickly restored after reconnections in the grid and the work on Feda-Åna-Sira was interrupted.
- On 6 December, there was an outage in the Nedre Røssåga-Ajaure power line due to a breakdown of a pylon. The outage resulted in reduced export capacity from NO4 until the line was reconnected on 14 December.



Investments

Statnett is planning and implementing major development projects. The 2015 Grid Development Plan was presented on 1 October. The plan describes development trends and anticipated investments in the main grid.

Statnett invested a total of NOK 5 820 million in 2015, compared with NOK 6 037 million in 2014. Investments include commissioned projects, projects under construction and ICT projects as well as other investments.



The main projects are listed in the table on the next page.

Overview of major investement projects

See www.statnett.no for more information about the projects.

Project	Location	Expected investments
Completed projects		
Lakselv reinvestment station	Finnmark	
Tjeldsundet reinvestment station	Norland	
Ålfoten - Ørsta (part of Ørskog - Sogndal)	Møre og Romsdal	
Under implementation		
Western Corridor, voltage upgrade 1)	Vest-Agder/Rogaland	MNOK 7 500 - 8 500
Ørskog - Sogndal, new 420 kV power line	Møre og Romsdal/ Sogn og Fjordane	MNOK 4 600 - 5 600
Ofoten - Balsfjord, new 420 kV power line	Nordland/Troms	MNOK 3 200 - 3 700
Station investments (transformer capacity Eastern Norway, reactors for power reduction)		MNOK 1 400 - 1 600
Indre Oslofjord, reinvestments interconnectors	Akershus/Buskerud	MNOK 1 050 - 1 200
Subsection Nedre Røssåga - Namsos	Nordland/Trøndelag	MNOK 800 - 1 000
Subsection Klæbu - Namsos	Trøndelag	MNOK 700 - 800
Interconnectors, under implementation Cable to England (NSL) Cable to Germany (NordLink)		MEUR 750 - 1 000 ²⁾
		WEST 700 T 000
Final licence granted Balsfjord-Skaidi (-Hammerfest), new 420 kV power line	Troms/Finnmark	MNOK 4 000 - 6 000
Station investments (Vemorktoppen, Mauranger, Kobbelv and other)	HOHIS/HIHIHAIK	MNOK 1 850 - 2 600
Namsos - Åfjord, new 420 kV power line	Trøndelag	MNOK 1 800 - 2 400
Snilldal - Surna, new 420 kV power line	Trøndelag/ Møre og Romsdal	MNOK 1 600 - 2 300
Planned investments, licences pending or appealed		
Nettplan Stor-Oslo, phase 1	Østlandet	MNOK 4 000 - 6 000
Lyse - Stølaheia	Rogaland	MNOK 2 500 - 3 500
Station investments (Smestad, transformers Western Norway and other)		MNOK 1 300 - 2 000
Voltage upgrade Aurland - Sogndal	Sogn og Fjordane	MNOK 500 - 900
ICT projects		
Renewal of Statnett's central operations system		MNOK 500 - 600
Elhub		MNOK 400 - 600

The amounts in the table show the anticipated range including all project costs. Projects under implementation are shown in current rates, other projects in 2015 rates.

¹⁾ Parts of the project are under planning and going through licensing procedure
²⁾ Statnett share. Exposure mainly in Euro which corresponds to a span of 7-9 billion NOK per project.
Agreements with partners in Germany and England will be in Euro.

Important project events in the fourth quarter of 2015

- New cables Tjeldsundet: The new cable facility
 across Tjeldsundet in Ofoten was commissioned in
 October. The cable facility is 2.4 km long and is the
 first in Statnett's history where the cables terminate in
 masts and not coupling housing.
- Western Corridor:
 - Substation and power line package 1: A contract has been awarded for 14 transformers.
 The first new tower was erected on 27 October.
 - o Substation and power line packages 2 and 3: Statnett's Board of Directors made an investment decision in September. The licence decision for Ertsmyra-Lyse has been appealed and an appeal inspection was conducted with the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy (MPE) in December. A decision is expected to be made in the near future.
- Ørskog Sogndal:
 - More than 90 per cent of the project has now been completed. The section between Ålfoten and Ørsta was energized in December.
 This means that the entire power line between Ørskog and Ålfoten is now energized at 420 kV.
 - o On 17 December, Fjordane District Court suspended the suspensive effect for Sørdalen nature reserve. This means that Statnett can start constructing the final 2.5 km section of the power line and mobilisation started in January 2016. Consequently, the project is likely to be completed by the end of 2016 as scheduled.
- Ofoten-Balsfjord: More than 50 per cent of the project has been completed. The section spanning the Rombaksfjord was completed in October.
- Reactors for voltage reduction: Reactor switches (composite) were put into operation in Flesaker in October and in Sylling in December.
- International interconnectors: In 2015, Statnett looked into the possibility of installing fibre optic cables in conjunction with installation of the power cables to Germany and the UK. The assessments were completed in December, and showed that this would not be possible without a significant risk of delays. In consultation with their partners, Statnett therefore decided not to go ahead with the plans for an integrated fibre solution. At the same time, Statnett

- invited interested parties to collaborate on the realisation of a stand-alone fibre project, initially to the UK.
- Inner Oslofjord cable facility: Construction started at the end of September/beginning of October.
- Wind power Central Norway (Namsos Åfjord and Åfjord Snilldal Surna): In November, the Statnett Board of Directors made an investment decision for the Snilldal-Surna section. A request for the power line contract for both sections was sent out the same month. The project is being constructed to facilitate wind power plans at Fosen and in the Snillfjord region. However, it will only be realised if an investment decision for 100 MW of wind power is made during the course of the first quarter of 2016.
- Reinvestment Sildvik: The Statnett Board of Directors made an investment decision in December.
- Bjerkreim Substation: NVE has granted Statnett a licence to construct the Bjerkreim substation. The licence grants permission to change and expand the substation. The Bjerkreim substation is necessary to connect planned wind power plants in the area to the transmission grid, and the decision to construct depends on development of about half of the planned wind power. Assuming that wind power will be developed, the substation will be completed in 2019, at the earliest. Statnett has entered into an agreement with Lyse Produksjon to implement Statnett's part of the development.
- Statnett has submitted a concept and feasibility study for increased consumption at Fræna/Nyhamna to the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy (MPE). The recommended concept will ensure a more reliable power supply and provide dual supply (N-1) to the gas processing facility at Nyhamna in Romsdalen.

Financial performance

Operating revenues

The Group's operating revenues in the fourth quarter of 2015 totalled NOK 1 507 million (NOK 1 426 million). Operating revenues from regulated operations totalled NOK 1 453 million (NOK 1 412 million), while other operating revenues amounted to NOK 54 million (NOK 14 million). The increase was mainly due to higher congestion revenues due to significant price differences for short periods. Tariff revenues from fixed tariff components have increased as a consequence of

a change in tariff rates for consumption, whereas tariff revenues from energy components were somewhat reduced due to lower energy prices.

The Statnett Group's total operating revenues for 2015 amounted to NOK 5 906 million (NOK 5 563 million). Operating revenues from regulated operations totalled NOK 5 747 million (NOK 5 389 million), while other operating revenues amounted to NOK 159 million (NOK 174 million). The increase in operating revenues was mainly caused by the same reasons as for the fourth quarter, in addition to increased congestion revenues towards the Netherlands in the third quarter due to record-low prices in Southern Norway. Other operating revenues were lower due to profit from the sale of Husebyplatået recorded in 2014, as well as reduced revenues from external assignments.

Statnett's operating revenues mainly derive from grid operations, including system operations, regulated by the NVE, which stipulates a cap for Statnett's permitted revenue. Permitted revenue was NOK 6 236 million in 2015 (NOK 6 054 million). The increase was mainly due to an increase in the company's asset base, somewhat offset by lower interest rates as a basis for return on invested grid capital. Recorded revenues from regulated activities in Statnett consist primarily of fixed grid tariffs from the customers as well as congestion revenues (price differences between areas in the Nordic region and in relation to the Netherlands). If the recorded revenues from grid operations for one year diverge from the permitted revenue, so-called higher or lower revenue will occur. Higher/lower revenue will level out over time through adjustment of future grid tariffs. In the fourth quarter of 2015, Statnett's lower revenue amounted to NOK 168 million (NOK 172 million). In 2015, lower revenue totalled NOK 489 million (NOK 665 million). At year-end 2015, accumulated higher revenue including interest was NOK 1 346 million.

Operating costs

The Group's operating costs totalled NOK 1 327 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 (NOK 1 226 million). In 2015, operating costs totalled NOK 4 192 million (NOK 4 185 million). Wage and staff costs were reduced due

to a one-off effect related to transition to a new pension plan, as well as lower system services costs and transmission loss. The reduced operating expenses are offset by an increase in depreciation.

System services costs amounted to NOK 97 million in the fourth quarter of 2015, down NOK 68 million compared with the corresponding period in 2014. System services costs in 2015 were NOK 451 million, down NOK 158 million compared with 2014. The reduction was mainly due to lower special adjustment costs due to e.g. fewer outages and lower energy prices, as well as lower transit costs due to, e.g., termination in 2014 of the agreement to purchase transmission services from the Swedish grid company Svenska kraftnät.

Transmission loss totalled NOK 127 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 (NOK 175 million). In 2015, transmission loss totalled NOK 466 million (NOK 586 million). The reduction was due to significantly lower energy prices, somewhat offset by higher loss volume.

In 2015, wage and staff costs totalled NOK 591 million (NOK 715 million). After adjusting for the effect of the change of pension scheme, wage and staff costs increased by NOK 152 million compared with 2014. The increase was driven by higher activity levels and increased workforce, as well as increased costs due to an altered scheme for differentiated employer's contribution.

Depreciation and impairment amounted to NOK 517 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 (NOK 346 million). For 2015, depreciation and impairment totalled NOK 1 626 million (NOK 1 150). The increase was due to an increased asset base, a change in the depreciation period for the back-up power plants, increased removal obligations, higher residual depreciation related to scrapping of fixed assets, as well as write-down of plants under construction mainly associated with the current consideration to establish an alternative route for grid reinforcements towards Stavanger.

Other operating costs totalled NOK 288 million during the fourth quarter of 2015 (NOK 337 million). In 2015, other operating costs totalled NOK 1 058 million, down NOK 67 million compared with 2014, despite growth in the Group. The reduction is partly related to foreign exchange gains resulting from currency hedging of the NordLink project, which do not qualify for hedge accounting. Costs associated with equipment and materials were lower as some major operating projects and modification projects were postponed until 2016. In addition, the general cost level was also lower as a result of measures related to Statnett's efficiency improvement programme. This was somewhat offset by an increase in insurance costs and increased property tax, mainly explained by the increased asset base and introduction of property tax in several municipalities.

Operating profit

The Group's operating profit in the fourth quarter of 2015 was NOK 180 million (NOK 200 million). The operating profit totalled NOK 1 714 million in 2015 (NOK 1 378 million).

Financial items

Net financial items amounted to a loss of NOK 71 million in the fourth quarter of 2015 (loss of NOK 62 million). Net financial items for 2015 amounted to a loss of NOK 312 million (loss of NOK 269 million). The increase in financial costs was mainly due to realisation of Statnett's development projects, somewhat offset by lower interest rates.

Net profit

The Group's profit after tax in the fourth quarter of 2015 was NOK 158 million (NOK 106 million). In 2015, the Group's profit after tax totalled NOK 1 103 (NOK 829 million). The underlying profit after tax, corrected for changes in the higher revenue balance, amounted to NOK 1 427 in 2015 (NOK 1 284 million).

Cash flow and balance sheet

The Group's operating activities generated an accumulated net cash flow of NOK 2 260 million in 2015, compared with NOK 3 028 million in the corresponding period in 2014. The net cash flow from investment activities totalled NOK -5 777 million compared with NOK -5 997 million in the corresponding period in 2014. In total, loans were repaid by

NOK 1 142 million, and new loans of NOK 1 503 million were raised. At year-end 2015, the Group's liquid assets and market-based securities amounted to NOK 2 376 million (NOK 4 364 million).

At the end of 2015, the Group had total assets of NOK 45 547 million (NOK 41 107 million). Interest-bearing debt amounted to NOK 28 289 million (NOK 24 643 million), including security under CSA (Credit Support Annex) of NOK 3 328 million (NOK 1 860 million). The market value of recognised interest swap and currency swap agreements (fair value hedges) related to interest-bearing debt was NOK 5 032 million. Interest-bearing debt, corrected for this, totalled NOK 23 257 million.

Subsidiaries and associated companies

Statnett SF wholly owns Statnett Transport AS. In 2015, operating revenues for Statnett Transport amounted to NOK 130 million (NOK 151 million) and the profit before tax was NOK 19 million (NOK 24 million).

Statnett SF wholly owns NordLink Norge AS. The company will be responsible for construction and operation of Statnett's share of the NordLink cable. NordLink Norge AS had no operating revenues in 2015. Profit before tax amounted to NOK 29 million, mainly related to foreign exchange gains resulting from currency hedging of the NordLink project, which do not qualify for hedge accounting. The company had no activity in 2014.

Statnett SF owns 50 per cent of the shares in Lyse Sentralnett and holds control over the company, which has been consolidated in the Statnett Group accounts. In 2015, operating revenues for Lyse Sentralnett AS amounted to NOK 33 million (NOK 37 million), but the company recorded a loss of NOK 101 million (profit of NOK 9 million). This is due to write-down of plants under construction.

On 28 August, Statnett SF established the company Elhub AS in which Statnett owns 100 percent of the shares. Elhub AS was operative from 1 October. The company will develop and operate a central data hub for measuring values and market processes in

the Norwegian electricity market (Elhub), which is a responsibility assigned to Statnett by the NVE through the Energy Settlement Licence. Elhub will be put in operation from the first quarter of 2017. The company recordet a Zero result.

Statnett SF has an ownership interest of 28.2 per cent in Nord Pool Spot AS. Statnett's share of the profit in Nord Pool AS contributed NOK 7 million (NOK 9 million) to the Statnett Group's profit in 2015.

Corporate social responsibility

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) in Statnett entails integration of social and environmental considerations in the company's social mission in a way that extends beyond the minimum requirements stipulated in laws and regulations. Statnett's social mandate is to maintain a reliable supply of electricity, contribute to value creation in society through an efficient and wellfunctioning power system and pave the way for better environmental solutions.

The work on corporate social responsibility is naturally linked to our development of the next generation power system and the group's social mandate. Statnett shall use the activities, expertise and resource base in the Group to perform its social mandate in such a way that it has positive ripple effects for society.

Statnett reports annually on CSR in accordance with the globally recognised reporting framework, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). Statnett's GRI reporting complies with the requirements relating to CSR reporting stipulated in the Norwegian Accounting Act. Please see Statnett's 2014 annual report for more information about CSR.

Health, Safety and Environment (HSE)

The Group's overall absence due to illness was 3.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2015, compared with 2.9 per cent in the corresponding period in 2014. Overall absence due to illness for Statnett was 3.3 per cent in 2015 and 3.1 per cent in 2014.

In total, Statnett reported eight lost-time injuries in the fourth quarter of 2015: three internal and five contractor/supplier lost-time injuries. Three lost-time injuries

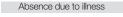
were reported in the corresponding period in 2014. None of the incidents in the fourth quarter of 2015 caused serious personal injury.

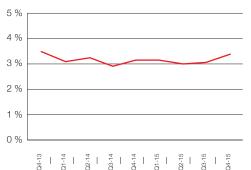
Over the last few years, the Group has improved its HSE performance and works systematically towards the objective of becoming the leading transmission system operator in Europe by the end of 2017. The objective has been specified to a Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) of 2.0 and Total Recordable Incidents (TRI) of 3.9. In 2015, Statnett's LTIFR was 6.4 and the TRI 12.9 (including contractors/suppliers). This is an increase from 2014 (LTIFR of 4.4 and TRI of 6.8). Planned measures include increased focus on investigations and introduction of an internal colleague programme - "Sikker" ("Safe") - which will promote safe individual behaviour.

Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) and lost-time injuries



LTIFR including contractors, 12 months' rolling average





The Sikker programme

In the fourth quarter, a pilot was launched of Statnett's internal safety programme SIKKER ("SAFE"). The purpose of the programme is to make decisions and perform actions that ensure an injury-free workday. The SIKKER programme provides a structured discussion and anchoring of personal obligations and expectations. The purpose is to achieve a common culture and understanding of objectives, responsibility and consequences with a focus on people's own behaviour, awareness and clear leadership.

Risk

Statnett practises unified risk management in a manner that reflects that the enterprise is responsible for critical infrastructure in a vulnerable society, and that Statnett is in a phase with a significant project volume as well as an increase in facilities. Statnett's risk management focuses on risk with potential consequences for HSE, security of supply, finance and reputation.

Statnett is exposed to HSE risks mainly in connection with implementation of development projects as well as operation and maintenance of existing facilities. Statnett's HSE risk assessment forms the basis for systematic improvement work within HSE with close follow-up of our suppliers. As presented in the 2015 Grid Development Plan, Statnett is about to enter a five-year period with a historically high investment level. This also means that the total project portfolio risk associated with HSE, finance and reputation will increase. Statnett has a wide range of procedures which cover how risky operations should be performed and these are revised regularly.

Security of supply is below the desired level and N-0 operation is necessary during some periods in some areas (no barrier against power outages in the main grid). However, there has been no recent significant changes in the risk.

The energy situation is normal in all areas and there is little risk of a strained power situation nationally and regionally in the present season. Reservoir water levels are above the median and the hydrological balance is

above normal. The risk of very strained power situations (SAKS) has been reduced in the medium term. Consequently, the use of SAKS measures will be discontinued after completion of the new power line between Ørskog and Sogndal.

The threat against critical ICT infrastructure in society is increasing. Statnett has several critical IT services. Loss of such services would make it challenging to handle system operations, for instance in the event of faults in grid facilities or major changes in production and consumption. Statnett has increased its efforts to improve information security, and cooperates closely with other stakeholders in the power industry to strengthen protection against cyber-attacks.

The enterprise has a credit facility totalling NOK 6 500 million to be able to fund at least 12 months' revolving operation and investments without incurring any new debt. Statnett has long-term credit ratings of A+ and A2 from Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Service, respectively.

As other enterprises, Statnett is exposed to the risk of fraud and misconduct. Misconduct exists when employees, employee representatives or business connections violate the trust that has been placed in them to achieve an unjustified advantage. Key measures to reduce the risk are Statnett's value base and code of conduct, structured processes including in connection with acquisitions and continuous management follow-up and internal control.

Statnett's operation has a natural exposure to reputation risk and is dependent on society's acceptance especially on areas relating to the extensive construction activity Statnett is currently conducting and the consequences on nature intervention, construction in densely populated areas, tariff effects and other circumstances. The Group's key measures to reduce the reputation risk is e.g. communication of construction plans, dialogue with customers, authorities and other interest groups, as well as transfer of knowledge. Statnett's customer survey in 2015 shows a positive development in this area.

Outlook

Statnett's 2015 Grid Development Plan, launched in October, reflects Norwegian society's need for a stronger grid which ensures a reliable power supply and facilitates renewables projects and industrial and commercial development throughout the country. This means that Statnett is in a five-year period with an historically high investment level. The development of new grid facilities will contribute to increased capacity in the power system, but it also results in delays of important reinvestments in existing plants. Statnett emphasises maintaining an overall project and reinvestment plan that balances the efficient development of the main grid in Norway with maintaining a reliable security of supply.

Together with its German and British partners, Statnett has started the construction of the interconnectors to Germany and the UK. Both projects have high priority and are important for the development and integration of the Northern European power system. The projects will help ensure improved security of supply in Norway, Germany and the UK, and balance variations in German and British renewable power production throughout the day. Power exchange capacity generates value creation in Norway. Moreover, the projects will support the ambitions to increase generation of renewable energy throughout the region and help meet the EU's climate and energy targets.

The grid development measures with the highest priority have a positive effect on security of supply. However, the large project scope also entails major strain on a generally highly utilised and ageing power grid. Consequently, a focus on preparedness will continue to be important in the years to come.

Statnett continues its collaboration with the wind power operators in Central Norway to realise the projects at Fosen and in Snillfjord.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Energy (MPE) has submitted proposed amendments to the Energy Act for consultation, as a result of the third EU energy market package. The proposal entails substantial growth in the tasks assigned to Statnett if Statnett

assumes ownership of the remaining 15 per cent of the main grid. This will lead to an increased need for investments and staff in Statnett, but will also allow for an overall more efficient organisation of main grid operations and development in the long term.

Statnett is involved in cooperation both at a European and Nordic level. This work is important, as key framework conditions stipulated by the EU also are relevant for Norway through the EEA Agreement. The establishment of a common European power market makes it necessary to harmonise the framework for the electricity market, as well as for system and grid operations. As the Norwegian and Nordic power systems differ from the European system, it is important that the framework conditions are formulated to safeguard Norwegian and Nordic security of supply, promote cooperation and structure developments at a Nordic level, and ensure value creation from Norwegian hydropower.

Major investments will be made in the main grid over the coming period, which will affect tariffs. The measures are based on a sound socio-economic foundation and Statnett strives to ensure transparent, cost-efficient and grid-based tariffs for all customer groups. Statnett's current tariff strategy applies for the period 2014-2018.

Statnett is focusing on maintaining its position as one of the most cost-efficient TSOs in Europe. The Group aims to increase efficiency by 15 per cent by the end of 2018, based on the 2013 cost level. The results so far have been good. An important objective is to realise the potential for economies of scale inherent in the combination of existing facilities, new commissioned facilities and acquisition of the remaining part of the main grid as a consequence of the EU's third energy market package.

Oslo, 17 February 2016

The Board of Directors, Statnett SF

Statement of comprehensive income

Statnett Group

		Fourth qu	ıarter	Year	
Amounts in NOK million	Note	2015	2014	2015	2014
Operating revenue					
Operating revenue regulated operations	2	1 453	1 412	5 747	5 389
Other operating revenue		54	14	159	174
Total operating revenue		1 507	1 426	5 906	5 563
Operating costs					
System sevices		97	165	451	609
Transmission losses		127	175	466	586
Salaries and personnel costs	5	298	203	591	715
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		517	346	1 626	1 150
Other operating costs		288	337	1 058	1 125
Total operating costs		1 327	1 226	4 192	4 185
Operating profit		180	200	1 714	1 378
Income from associate		5	-2	8	11
Financial income		53	116	501	202
Financial costs		124	178	813	471
Profit before tax		114	136	1 410	1 120
Tax		-44	30	307	291
Profit for the period		158	106	1 103	829
Other comprehensive income					
Changes in fair value, held-for-sale investments		1	2	1	2
Changes in fair value for cash flow hedges		5	-77	20	-158
Tax effect		-6	21	-10	43
Other comprehensive income to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods		-	-54	11	-113
Remeasurements of pension liabilities	5	91	-120	253	-407
Tax effect		-27	33	-70	110
Other comprehensive income not to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods		64	-87	183	-297
Total other comprehensive income		64	-141	194	-410
Total comprehensive income		222	-35	1 297	419

Balance sheet

Statnett Group

Note	31.12.15	30.09.15	31.12.14
	53	53	53
	283	185	227
	30 215	27 062	27 515
4	6 553	8 650	5 047
	90	85	89
3	5 213	4 979	3 340
	42 407	41 014	36 271
3	764	901	472
3	680	682	1 345
3	1 696	2 405	3 019
	3 140	3 988	4 836
	45 547	45 002	41 107
	5 950	5 950	5 950
	7 614	7 335	6 601
	41	78	78
	13 605	13 383	12 629
	1 055	974	682
5	249	327	869
	665	639	485
3	24 266	24 651	22 138
	26 235	26 591	24 174
3	4 023	3 280	2 505
3	1 673	1 642	1 763
	11	106	36
	5 707	5 028	4 304
	3 3 3 3 3 3	53 283 30 215 4 6 553 90 3 5 213 42 407 3 764 3 680 3 1696 3 140 45 547 5 950 7 614 41 13 605 1 055 5 249 665 3 24 266 26 235	53 53 283 185 30 215 27 062 4 6 553 8 650 90 85 3 5 213 4 979 42 407 41 014 3 764 901 3 680 682 3 1 696 2 405 3 140 3 988 45 547 45 002 5 950 5 950 7 614 7 335 41 78 13 605 13 383 1 055 974 5 249 327 665 639 3 24 266 24 651 26 235 26 591 3 4 023 3 280 3 1 673 1 642 11 106

Statement of changes in equity

Statnett Group

(Amounts in NOK million)	Total equity	Non- controlling interest		Other equity accrued	Other items	Decided, non-regi- stered contri- buted capital	Contri- buted capital
Equity as at 1.1.2014	12 135	-	12 135	6 242	-57	3 250	2 700
Profit/loss for the year	829	3	826	826	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-410	-	-410	-297	-113	-	-
Paid contributed capital	-	-	-	-	-	-3 250	3 250
Acquisition subsidiary	75	75	-	-	-	-	-
Equity as at 31.12.2014	12 629	78	12 551	6 771	-170	-	5 950
Equity as at 1.1.2015	12 629	78	12 551	6 771	-170	-	5 950
Profit/loss for the year	1 103	-37	1 140	1 140	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	194	-	194	183	11	-	-
Dividends declared	-321	-	-321	-321	-	-	-
Equity as at 31.12.2015	13 605	41	13 564	7 773	-159	-	5 950

Cash flow statement

Statnett Group

	Y	ear
(Amount in NOK million)	2015	2014
Cash flow from operating activities		
Profit before tax	1 410	1 120
Loss/gain(-) on sale of fixed assets	-18	-59
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	1 626	1 150
Taxes paid	-37	-
Interest recognised in the income statement	327	270
Interest received	40	55
Interest paid, excl. construction interest	-366	-301
Changes in trade accounts receivable/payable	-121	273
Changes in other accruals	-593	531
Result from companies using equity method	-8	-11
Net cash flow from operating activities	2 260	3 028
Cash flow from investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	46	58
Purchase of tangible fixed assets, other intangible fixed assets and plants under construction	-5 676	-5 809
Construction interest paid	-144	-196
Purchase of subsidiary, net of cash acquired	-	-40
Change in long term loan receivables	-10	-14
Dividend received	7	4
Net cash flow from investing activities	-5 777	-5 997
Cash flow from financing activities Proceeds from new interest-bearing borrowings	1 503	3 048
Repayment of interest-bearing debt	-1 142	-2 287
Changes in collateral under CSA (Credit Support Annex) agreements	1 469	1 687
Proceeds from sale of market-based securities	1 111	476
Purchase of market-based securities	-426	-1 156
Dividend paid	-321	1 100
Proceeds from new equity		3 250
Net cash-flow from financing activities	2 194	5 018
Net cash flow for the period	-1 323	2 049
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the period	3 019	970
Cash and cash equivalents at the close of the period	1 696	3 019

Restricted bank deposit amounting to NOK 86 million is included in cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December, 2015.

Unused credit facilities of NOK 6 500 million are not included in cash and cash equivalents.

Selected notes

Note 1 - Accounting policies

The interim report has been submitted in accordance with International Standards for Financial Reporting (IFRS) and interpretations stipulated by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) including IAS 34. The interim accounts do not contain all the additional information required in the annual accounts, and should therefore be read in the context of the 2014 annual accounts. The interim accounts is unaudited.

The accounting principles applied for the interim accounts are consistent with the accounting principles that were applied for the 2014 annual accounts with the following exceptions:

As of 1 January, 2015 the Group implemented IFRIC 21 which is an interpretation of IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets. IAS 37 sets out criteria for the recognition of a liability. The Interpretation clarifies that the obligating event that gives rise to a liability to pay a levy is the event that triggers the payment of the levy. The obligating event will occur when the municipality issues the property tax to the Group entity. This implies that the Group recognizes the property tax when the invoice for the next term is received from the municipalities.

Note 2 – Operating revenues regulated operations

Statnett's operating revenues mainly derive from regulated grid operations. Operating revenues from regulated activities in Statnett's financial reporting consist primarily of fixed grid tariffs from the customers as well as congestion revenues (price differences between areas in the Nordic region and towards the Netherlands). Statnett's grid operations are regulated by the NVE, which stipulates a cap for Statnett's revenues (permitted revenue). If the total revenues from grid operations for one year diverge from the permitted revenue, so-called higher or lower revenue will occur. Higher/lower revenue will level out over time through adjustment of future grid tariffs.

	Ye	ear
(Amounts in NOK million)	2015	2014
Statnett Group		
Tariff revenues	4 875	4 741
Congestion revenues	1 067	807
Income from other owners in shared grids	-195	-159
Total operating revenues regulated activities	5 747	5 389
Total permitted revenue	6 236	6 054
This year's higher/lower revenue (-/+), excl. interest	489	665
This year's provision for interest higher/lower revenue (-/+)	-25	-42
Changed balance for higher/lower revenue, change previous year (-/+)	-20	-
Changed balance for higher/lower revenue (-/+)	444	623
Balance higher/lower revenue (-/+), incl. interest as at 1 Jan.	-1 790	-2 413
Changed balance for higher/lower revenue (-/+), incl. interest	444	623
Balance higher/lower revenue (-/+), incl. interest year to date	-1 346	-1 790

Impact of grid outages on profit

As the transmission system operator, Statnett is in dialogue with the NVE regarding how outages in Nyhamna in the event of system protection activation in the period leading up to 2012 should be handled with respect to the KILE scheme and system operation costs. The financial consequences for Statnett of such grid interruptions/ outages have therefore not been clarified. On 1. February 2016, NVE provided their opinion to the Oil and Energy department which will conclude on the matter. For outages on the Viklandet–Fræna power line after 2012, a provision has been made in the accounts following the same principle as for previous incidents.

Note 3 - Overview of financial instruments

This note gives an overview of book value and fair value of financial instruments, including accounting treatment. The table also shows at which level in the valuation hierarchy the different measurement methods for the Group's financial instruments measured at fair value are classified, compared to how objective the measurement method is.

As at 31 December 2015

Group (Amounts in NOK million)	Category	Measure- ment level	Book value	Fair value
Assets				
Fixed assets				
Long-term receivables	Loans and receivables		44	44
Subord. capital in Statnett SF's pension fund	Fair value through profit/loss	3	75	75
Financial assets available for sale	Available for sale	3	10	10
Derivatives	Fair value through profit/loss	2	5 084	5 084
Total financial fixed assets			5 213	5 213
Current assets				
Trade accounts receivable	Loans and receivables		166	166
Derivatives	Fair value through profit/loss	2	119	119
Other short-term receivables	Loans and receivables		479	479
Total trade accounts and other short-term receiv	ables		764	764
Investment in market-based securities	Fair value through profit/loss	1	680	680
Liquid assets	Fair value through profit/loss		1 696	1 696
Liabilities				
Long-term interest-bearing debt	Other liabilities	1	24 045	24 271
Derivatives	Fair value through profit/loss	2	221	221
Total long-term interest-bearing debt			24 266	24 492
Short-term interest-bearing debt	Other liabilities	1	4 019	4 032
Derivatives	Fair value through profit/loss	2	4	4
Total short-term interest-bearing debt			4 023	4 036
Trade accounts payable and other short-term debt	Other liabilities		1 673	1 673
Total Level 1*			680	680
Total Level 2**			-23 086	-23 325
Total Level 3**			85	85

^{*} Quoted prices for active markets for identical financial instruments. No adjustments are made regarding these prices.

During the period there has not been any transactions between the measurement levels.

 $^{^{\}star\star}$ Measured using other observable input compared to level 1, either directly (prices) or indirectly (derived form prices)

 $^{^{\}star\star\star}$ Measured using input not based on observable market data.

Fair value measurements

The fair value of forward exchange contracts is determined by applying the forward exchange rate on the balance sheet date.

The fair value of currency swaps and interest rate swap is calculated as the present value of future cash flows.

Fair value is mainly confirmed by the financial institution Statnett has contracts with.

The fair value of interest-bearing liabilities accounted for at amortised cost has been calculated:

- using quoted market prices,
- using interest rate terms for liabilities with a corresponding maturity and credit risk, or
- using the present value of estimated cash flows discounted by the interest rate that applies to corresponding liabilities and assets on the balance sheet date.

In the case of financial instruments such as financial assets available for sale, trade account receivables and other short-term receivables, liquid assets, trade accounts payable and other current liabilities, it is assumed that the book value is the best estimate for fair value, due to the short-term nature of the items.

CSA agreements

Statnett has entered into CSA (Credit Support Annex) agreements with major counterparts. This entails that the market value of derivaties entered into between Statnett and a counterparty is settled on a weekly basis, and that monetary security is received or given for any outstanding amounts.

Reconciliation of level 3 in fair value measurements		Group
(Amounts in NOK million)	2015	2014
Opening balance at 1. January	87	84
Capital reduction	-2	-
Net unrealised gain/loss in periode	-	3
Total fair value level 3	85	87

Note 4 - Plants under construction

	Gre	oup
(Amounts in NOK million)	2015	2014
Acquisition cost at 1. January	5 166	6 083
Additions	5 676	5 843
Capitalised construction interest	144	195
Transferred to tangible and other intangible fixed assets	-4 152	-6 954
Write-offs	-110	-
Acquisition cost at 31 December	6 724	5 167
Effect hedge accounting	-171	-120
Plants under construction at 31 December	6 553	5 047

Contractual obligations as at 31 December 2015

Contractual obligations as at 31 December 2015 total NOK 14 841 million.

The selection only includes investment projects where future contractual obligations exceed NOK 50 million.

In 2014, Statnett entered into an agreement with Lofotkraft AS. The agreement stipulates that Lofotkraft has the right, but no obligation to, sell or grid facilities to Statnett, and Statnett has the obligation, but no right, to purchase the grid facility from Lofotkraft from the time the grid facility in question has been commissioned and connected. The purchase price is estimated at NOK 250 million, and completion is scheduled for October 2016.

Note 5 - Pensions

Statnett has conducted calculations of the company's pension liabilities based on the Norwegian Accounting Standards Board's updated assumptions as of 31 December 2015.

The pension liability decreased by NOK 253 million as a result of changes in experience adjustment and actuarial assumptions as of the third quarter. Remeasurements as a result of the update have been recognised in other comprehensive income.

The following assumptions have been applied in the quarterly accounts:

Financial/actuarial assumptions	31.12.15	31.12.14
Discount rate corporate covered bonds (OMF)	2,75 %	2,30 %
Expected return on pension assets	2,75 %	2,30 %
Expected salaries adjustments	2,25 %	2,75 %
Expected pension adjustments	1,50 %	1,75 %
Expected adjustment of basic amount (G)	2,25 %	2,50 %
Expected mortality table adjustment	K2013FT	K2013BE
Remeasurements		
(Amounts in NOK million)		
Discount rate	-150	1 214
Rate of return assets	2	-60
Salaries growth	-56	-308
Pension adjustment	-63	-450
Mortality table (K2013)	118	-
Effect of experience adjustment	-104	11
Total changes in remeasurements	-253	407

In June 2015, Statnett decided to change the Group's pension plan from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. The transitioning to the defined contribution plan takes place from January 1, 2016. The effect of the transition was incorporated in the reported pension figures for the second quarter with som minor adjustments in the fourth quarter. Total cost-reduction due to the change amounts to NOK 284 million. Further information is available in note 5 to the second quarter report.

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